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	ment during 1996-97 for the Central Pool fell by about 4.1 Million Tonnes. Government, therefore decided to import upto 2 million Tonnes of wheat during 1996-97 to augment its availability in the country and to contain the rising trend in the prices of wheat in the domestic market. Import of wheat had therefore, nothing to do with the export sales by FCI.

[Translation]

Central Official Language Committee

3144. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which neither the reconstitution nor any meeting of the Central Official Language Committee for the last two years; and

(b) the reasons for not constituting Hindi Advisory Committee in Prime Minister's Office and also for non-constitution of Official Languages Implementation Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) There is no committee namely Central Official Language Committee, however there is a Central Hindi Committee which is under the process of reconstitution.

(b) Prime Minister's Office is not a regular Ministry or Department of Government. It is a small office which renders secretarial assistance to the Prime Minister. In view of this it was not felt necessary to constitute Hindi Advisory Committee and Official Language Committee for this office. An additional Secretary has been entrusted with the duty of implementing instructions issued for the progressive use of Hindi.

[English]

Trawling in Arabian Sea

3145. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ban was imposed on the trawling vessel of Kerala in the Arabian Sea whereas the foreign vessel and vessels of other States are operating there;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The Government of Kerala has imposed a ban on the use of bottom trawl in the sea along the entire coastline of the State within its territorial waters for a period of 45 days from 15th June, 1997 to 29th July, 1997.

The Government of India has also imposed a ban on the operation of all deep sea fishing vessels, including foreign deep sea fishing vessels operated on lease, in the Exclusive Economic Zone off the coast of Kerala for the period referred to above.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) Adequate steps have been taken by the Government of Kerala to prevent trawling by foreign vessels and vessels of other States within the territorial waters of Kerala coast. Further, all deep sea fishing vessels operating from Kochi Port were required to shift their base Port elsewhere during the period of the ban referred to in answer to (a) above.

[Translation]

Revival of HFCL and FCI

3146. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government contempleted to revive sick Fertilizer Corporation of India and Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far by the Government in this direction;

(c) whether the Chairman of Committee on Public Undertakings has written a letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) A letter dated 22.5.1997 has been received from the Chairman, Committee on Public Undertakings for expediting action on the revival plans for Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) in accordance with the decision taken by the Government in April 1995 and the recommendations of various Parliamentary Committees.

The revival packages for the functional units of HFC and FCI have been reformulated from the stand point of the financial institutions. The scope of the revamp is to